

## Claims

1. Image encoding method for transforming an image into a data bit sequence under resolution into a plurality of pixels individually numbered or provided with pixel coordinates, to which corresponds in each case a luminance value and/or chrominance value from a plurality of predetermined luminance values and/or chrominance values, characterized in that each of the luminance values and/or chrominance values occurring in the image, are allocated the numbers or pixel coordinates of the pixels having said luminance value and/or chrominance value.
2. Image encoding method according to claim 1, characterized in that in a first step, the image is examined as to which of the predetermined plurality of luminance values and/or chrominance values occurs in the image, and in a second step, each of the detected luminance values and/or chrominance values are allocated the numbers or pixel coordinates of the pixels having said luminance value and/or chrominance value.
3. Image encoding method according to claim 1, characterized by the realization as processing of a primary data bit sequence for obtaining a secondary, in particular compressed or reduced data bit sequence, luminance values and/or chrominance values having no pixel allocated being not encoded in the secondary data bit sequence.

4. Image encoding method according to claim 3,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n t h a t  
the pixels are allocated pixel coordinates as value pairs  
of Cartesian coordinates or polar coordinates, and the  
5 pixel coordinates are indicated in the secondary data bit  
sequence as value pairs, whereas the luminance values  
and/or chrominance values with which the pixels are  
associated, are encoded as individual numerical values.
- 10 5. Image encoding method according to claim 1,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n t h a t  
the pixels allocated to the occurring luminance values  
and/or chrominance values are indicated in a predetermined  
order of the luminance values and/or chrominance values,  
15 the pixels allocated to a determined luminance value  
and/or chrominance value being in each case preceded by a  
value characterizing the distance to the preceding  
luminance value and/or chrominance value.
- 20 6. Image encoding method according to claim 1,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n t h a t  
for data reduction, those luminance values and/or  
chrominance values having a number of pixels allocated  
falling below a determined threshold value, are not  
25 encoded.
7. Image encoding method according to claim 6,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n t h a t  
those pixels, the luminance values and/or chrominance  
30 values of which are not encoded, are allocated to the next  
adjacent luminance value and/or chrominance value.

8. Image encoding method according to claim 6,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n t h a t  
particularly relevant parts of an image are predetermined,  
in which the non-encoding of those luminance values and/or  
5 chrominance values is suppressed, which have a number of  
pixels allocated falling below a determined threshold  
value.
9. Image encoding method according to claim 1,  
10 c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n t h a t  
the image is subdivided into partial images in a  
predetermined order, in which partial images the pixels  
are in each case separately numbered or provided with  
pixel coordinates.
10. Image encoder for realizing the image encoding method  
15 according to claim 1,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d b y  
a pixel allocation means for allocating pixels having a  
20 predefined luminance value and/or chrominance value to the  
corresponding luminance value and/or chrominance value.
11. Image encoder according to claim 10,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d b y  
25 a luminance value/chrominance value detection means  
connected to an input of the pixel allocation means for  
examining, in particular in a scanning manner, the image  
for the occurring luminance values and/or chrominance  
values.
12. Image encoder according to claim 10,  
30 c h a r a c t e r i z e d b y  
a digital input for receiving a primary data bit sequence,  
and a digital output for outputting a secondary, in  
35 particular compressed or reduced data bit sequence.

13. Image encoder according to claim 10,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d b y  
a luminance/chrominance threshold value discriminator and  
a counter means connected to the output of the pixel  
allocation means for counting the pixels allocated to the  
individually occurring luminance values and/or chrominance  
values, which counter means is connected to the input of  
the luminance/chrominance threshold value discriminator,  
the luminance(chrominance threshold value discriminator  
and the counter means cooperating in such a manner that  
luminance values and/or chrominance values having a number  
of pixels allocated falling below a predetermined  
threshold value, are not encoded and are not outputted.

14. Image encoder according to claim 13,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d b y  
an adjacent value allocation means connected to the  
luminance/chrominance threshold value discriminator for  
allocating to the next adjacent luminance and/or  
chrominance value those pixels, the luminance values  
and/or chrominance values of which are not encoded due to  
falling below the threshold value.

15. Image encoder according to claim 10,  
c h a r a c t e r i z e d b y  
an image dividing means for determining restricted,  
particularly relevant parts of an image and/or for  
subdividing the image into partial images, in which the  
pixels are in each case separately numbered or provided  
with pixel coordinates in a determined order.